

Middle School Initiative

**PART I
COVER SHEET**

CAP 1 SEMESTER 2 WEEK 2

COURSE: Arnold Leadership Laboratory, Achievement 2

LESSON TITLE: Uniforms, Colors and Flags, and Communication

LENGTH OF LESSON: 50 Minutes

METHOD: Informal Lecture

REFERENCE(S): *Leadership: 2000 and Beyond*, Volume 1, Chapter 2

AUDIO/VISUAL AIDS/HANDOUTS:

1. Overhead Projector
2. Transparency

COGNITIVE OBJECTIVE: The objective of this lesson is for each cadet to:

1. Understand the purpose and scope of good communications.
2. Know the difference between CAP and USAF uniforms.
3. Know the various flags used in CAP and the honors to be accorded during the playing of the National Anthem or "To the Colors."

COGNITIVE SAMPLES OF BEHAVIOR:

1. Use good communications methods.
2. Apply knowledge in regard to differences between CAP and AF uniforms.
3. Utilize his or her knowledge of colors and flags by honoring them as required.

AFFECTIVE OBJECTIVE: N/A

AFFECTIVE SAMPLES OF BEHAVIOR: N/A

Middle School Initiative

PART II TEACHING PLAN

Introduction

ATTENTION: A triumvirate of optically deficient rodents observe how they perambulate!
They all perambulated after the horticulturist's spouse,
Who removed their posterior appendages with a culinary instrument.
Have you ever observed such a visual phenomenon in your cumulative
metabolic process,
As a triumvirate of optically deficient rodents?

MOTIVATION: Just what was communicated to you by this rhyme? Did you understand the higher level of language used?

OVERVIEW: Today, we will be discussing some of the elements of communications and how they affect our daily lives. We will also step back in time and discuss the primary differences between Civil Air Patrol and Air Force uniforms. Finally, we will discuss colors and flags used in CAP/military ceremonies.

TRANSITION: Did you understand what I just said about what we will cover in this hour? If not, by the time we are finished with the class you will certainly comprehend what I just told you.

Body

MP 1 Communication is a fact of life. It is the cement that binds societies together. There are two primary methods of communicating your thoughts to another person - verbal and non-verbal.

Generally speaking, verbal communication is what we call talking. It is our most prevalent method of communicating thoughts between us. Speech, our language, is what raises us above the lower animals. Although animals and other species communicate among themselves, their methods are limited by their inability to speak, as we know it.

Communicating is a very complex affair in the human species. We speak to each other in a language that has many words that have the same meaning and with words that have many definitions. We must construct our communication so that the person to whom it is directed understands it.

My opening statement was very complex. It was filled with large words that need to be interpreted in order to be understood. The use of language that is above our level of education is a barrier to understanding. Therefore, we must convey our thoughts at a level of equal understanding.

When you speak to another person you become the transmitter or sender of information and the person or persons listening are the receivers of your information. They, in turn, must interpret your symbols, i.e., your words, to understand their meanings. If the receiver does not understand the words, a question is formed and you are asked what you meant. This is called feedback as the process is reversed - the receiver becomes the sender and you, the original sender, becomes the receiver. Your audience may also show feedback by some sort of body action that shows how well they are adjusting to your speech.

Thus far, I have only talked about verbal communication. There is such a thing as non-verbal symbolization. This can be the written word or some body action that you use while talking. When using body language, it should support your spoken words. If positive words are used with some sort of negative body language, you may be misunderstood.

"While the right to talk may be the beginning of freedom, the necessity of listening is what makes the right important."

A quote from Walt Lippmann

Use your language wisely. It could make or break you.

To close this portion of the period, let me quote the motto of the Metro Milwaukee YMCA:

*"Watch your thoughts; they become words.
Watch your words; they become actions.
Watch your actions; they become habits.
Watch your habits; they become character.
Watch your character; it becomes destiny."*

TRANSPARENCY LL2.2.1 - What He Said

MP 2 Since its inception, the US Air Force service uniform has been rather plain. By this, I mean that there have been no patches on the sleeve to denote any particular organization, nor are they any "hash marks" to indicate years of service as seen on US Army and Navy enlisted personnel's uniforms.

The Civil Air Patrol uniform, although basically the Air Force uniform, is distinctly different. An organizational (wing) patch is worn on the left sleeve of most garments, except the new service dress coat. Additionally, our aviation badges are distinctly different as well as our specialty badges.

Senior members, without grade, wear the CAP insignia (cutouts) on outer garments. Senior member officers wear the standard Air Force US insignia on the lapels of the service coat and distinctive CAP grade insignia on the epaulet of coats and shirts.

Cadets wear the CAP insignia (cutouts) and distinctive grade insignia on their uniforms as stipulated by regulation.

The Civil Air Patrol uniform represents a proud tradition of volunteer service to the United States of America, our local communities, and states or commonwealths.

MP 3 The use of colors and flags in Civil Air Patrol are generally covered in CAP Regulation 900-2, *Use of Civil Air Patrol Seal and Emblem; Use and Display of the United States Flag and Civil Air Patrol Flags*. The rules spelled out in this regulation cover the appropriate use of US Colors as well as organizational flags such as the national, region, wing, and unit flags.

Courtesies to the US Flag

Flags flown from stationary flagstaffs on bases are saluted only at reveille, retreat, and special occasions. Small flags and flags on half-staff are not saluted. Cased and folded flags are not saluted.

Military personnel passing an uncased US flag salute approximately six paces before reaching the flag and hold the salute until they have passed approximately six paces beyond it. Likewise, when an uncased US flag passes by, military personnel salute approximately six paces before the flag is even with them and hold the salute until the flag has passed approximately six paces beyond them.

Saluting When the National Anthem or To the Colors is Played

The US flag is symbolic of the United States and the principles for which it stands. The national anthem is a declaration of reverence and loyalty to the United States with the flag as an emblem.

On certain occasions, such as during inclement weather or when a band is not present for a retreat ceremony, To the Colors is played instead of the national anthem. To the Colors is a bugle call sounded as a salute to the flag and it symbolizes respect to the nation and the flag the same as the national anthem does.

When in uniform and in formation, but not a part of a ceremony, the unit commander commands present arms when the national anthem or To the Colors is played. The unit should be faced toward the flag before being given present arms.

When in uniform, but not in formation:

a. Outdoors, at any ceremony where the US flag is present, come to attention, face the flag in the ceremony, and salute. At sporting events, if the flag is visible, face the flag and salute. If the flag is not visible, face the band and salute in its direction. If the music is recorded, face the front and salute. At all other outdoor occasions follow the same general principle, come to attention, salute, and face the flag, if visible, or the music.

b. Indoors, when the national anthem or To the Colors is played, face the flag (if present) and assume the position of attention. If no flag is present, assume the position of attention facing the music. Do not salute unless under arms.

c. When in civilian clothing outdoors, take the same action as when in uniform, but use the following manner of saluting. Men remove the headdress with the right hand and hold it at the left shoulder with the right hand over the heart. Men without hats and women salute by standing at attention and placing the right hand over the heart.

d. When in civilian clothing indoors, render the civilian salute by standing at attention and placing the right hand over the heart.

e. In vehicles during an Air Force flag ceremony, the driver brings the moving vehicle to a stop at the first note of the national anthem or To the Colors. Personnel in vehicles, including the driver, remain seated at attention.

Flags and national anthems of friendly foreign countries are shown the same marks of respect.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

In military formations and ceremonies, the Pledge of Allegiance is not recited.

At protocol functions and social and sporting events that include civilian participants, military personnel should:

a. When in uniform outdoors, stand at attention, remain silent, face the flag, and render the hand salute.

b. When in uniform indoors, stand at attention, remain silent, and face the flag. Do not render the hand salute. Where the participants are primarily civilians or in civilian attire, reciting the Pledge of Allegiance is optional for those in uniform.

c. When in civilian attire, recite the Pledge of Allegiance standing at attention, facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. Men should remove their headdress with the right hand and hold it over their left shoulder, placing the right hand over the heart.

Conclusion

SUMMARY: During our session today we have learned some additional principles of good communication, some differences between the Air Force and Civil Air Patrol uniforms, some specifics on Colors and flags, and the honors to be accorded to the Colors.

REMOTIVATION: The learning of good communication practices is a never-ending task. We learn something new every day of our lives. Albert Einstein, the great physicist said, "*Imagination is more important than knowledge.*" Confucius, a wizened Chinese sage said, "*A wise man learns from his experience'; a wiser man learns from the experience of others.*"

CLOSURE: Next week you will be tested on the Arnold Achievement, so study Chapter 2 of your leadership text and review the lessons taught in military drill. You have a lot riding on your shoulders, so prepare yourself. **DISMISSED.**

Middle School Initiative

**PART III
LESSON REVIEW**

LESSON OBJECTIVE(S): The objectives of this lesson was for each cadet to:

1. Learn additional principles of good communications.
2. Know the differences between Civil Air Patrol and US Air Force service uniforms.
3. Understand and make a habit of proper honors to the US Colors.

LESSON QUESTIONS:

1. What happens when your words are positive and your body language is negative?

Answer: You might be misunderstood by sending mixed signals.

2. What US Air Force insignia does CAP senior officers wear?

Answer: The US on the lapels of the service coat.

3. When do you salute the Colors flying at half-staff?

Answer: You don't.